



THE AMERICAS COMPETITIVENESS FORUM

Promoting Prosperity
and Economic Opportunity

JUNE 11-12 2007 | ATLANTA, GEORGIA | USA

OPPORTUNITY

United States Secretary of Commerce Carlos Gutierrez is hosting the inaugural Americas Competitiveness Forum (ACF) from June 11-12, 2007, in Atlanta, Georgia. The ACF is a venue for Western Hemisphere economic and education ministers, business executives, academics, and non-profit leaders to meet, be heard and network. The ACF is a two-day conference designed to inspire and educate the 500 international leaders who will attend this groundbreaking and innovative forum.

AGENDA

Each day will be filled with thought-leading plenary speakers and provocative breakout sessions. The ACF addresses such critical topics as: Education and Workforce Development, Innovation, Small Business Development, and Supply Chain Strategies. A pre-conference reception will be held Sunday evening (June 10). The ACF officially begins Monday morning, and Monday's activities culminate with a reception and dinner at the nearby Georgia Aquarium. The ACF adjourns Tuesday night with a gala reception.

REGISTRATION

ACF registration is available now online by visiting www.trade.gov/competitiveness/acf. The early registration rate for non-government individuals is \$950, which will increase to \$1,050 after May 1, 2007.

LOCATION

The ACF will be held at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis, 265 Peachtree Center Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia, United States. The Peachtree Center location positions the ACF steps away from extraordinary shopping, extensive dining options, world-class entertainment, and top local attractions, such as the CNN Center, Georgia World Congress Center, Georgia Dome, Phillips Arena, Olympic Center, Turner Field, and World of Coca-Cola.

HOTEL

Room reservations can be made online at the ACF website, which is located at www.trade.gov/competitiveness/acf. ACF attendees will enjoy special hotel rates at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis: \$159 for all non-government attendees and \$124 per night for government employees.

VISAS

Participants will be responsible for all their own travel and visa arrangements. Please plan in advance and contact the U.S. Embassy or Consulate in your country to apply for a visa. Once registered to attend the forum, the U.S. Department of Commerce will issue a Letter of Registration for those requiring documentation to facilitate the process.

AIR TRANSPORTATION

Atlanta is served by the Atlanta-Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport. The airport has 32 airlines and is a major connecting hub for destinations throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Just 12 miles from the airport is the ACF venue, the Atlanta Marriott Marquis.

GROUND TRANSPORTATION

Airport ground transportation options include shuttles offering door-to-door and on-demand pickup service, taxis, car rental agencies, and limousine and sedan transportation services.

SPONSORSHIPS

Contact Alex Feldman at 202-482-2867 or Alex.Feldman@mail.doc.gov to learn about ACF sponsorship opportunities.

UPDATES

For the latest information, visit the ACF website at www.trade.gov/competitiveness/acf.

www.trade.gov/competitiveness/acf

Featured Speakers

As of April 30, 2007

(Listed alphabetically by first name)

Ana Vilma de Escobar, Vice President, El Salvador

Carlos M. Gutierrez, Secretary, U.S. Department of Commerce

Frank Lavin, Under Secretary, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce

Henry M. Paulson, U.S. Secretary of the Treasury

Hernando de Soto, President, Institute for Liberty and Democracy

Howard D. Shultz, Chairman, Starbucks Corporation (invited)

Jaime Morales Carazo, Vice President, Nicaragua

James Dimon, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, JPMorgan Chase (invited)

James E. Rohr, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, PNC Financial Services Group

Kevin Casas Zamora, Second Vice President, Costa Rica

Luis Alberto Moreno, President, Inter-American Development Bank

Margaret Spellings, Secretary, U.S. Department of Education

Michael L. Eskew, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, UPS

Shirley Franklin, Mayor, City of Atlanta

Sonny Perdue, Governor, State of Georgia

Vinton G. Cerf, Vice President and Chief Internet Evangelist, Google